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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/663,921	09/16/2003	Liang-Jen Chang	11440/4	2306

7590 05/18/2004

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
NBC Tower
Suite 3600
455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive
Chicago, IL 60611-5599

EXAMINER

MARCELO, EMMANUEL MONSAYAC

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3654

DATE MAILED: 05/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/663,921

Applicant(s)

CHANG, LIANG-JEN

Examiner

Emmanuel M Marcelo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent no. 5,947,400 to Tsutsumi.

Tsutsumi discloses a spinning reel used for fishing. Tsutsumi does not explicitly disclose a reel frame, a cranking handle and a rotary member but these well-known elements are understood to be part of Tsutsumi's fishing reel.

In addition, Tsutsumi discloses a spool 1 member including an outer surrounding wall surface (1a) adapted to be wound by the fishing line in a reeling-in stage, and inner surrounding wall surface which is opposite to the outer surrounding wall surface in radial directions relative to the spindle axis, and which is disposed to surround and to be rotatable relative to the intermediate portion in a reeling out stage about the spindle axis, the spool member further including front (1h) and rear (portion of 1i facing element 12) friction walls which are opposite to each other along the spindle axis, and which extends from the inner surrounding wall surface radially relative to the spindle axis; a rear friction member (11, 12) mounted on the rear segment and having a first abutment area disposed to confront and to be brought into first and second frictional engagements with the rear friction wall, which are respectively of a greater frictional force in the reeling-in stage and of a smaller frictional force in the reeling-out stage; a front

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friction member (5, 6, 7) mounted on and movable relative to the front segment along the spindle axis, and having a second abutment area which is disposed to confront and to be moved towards the front friction wall to bring the first abutment area into the first and second frictional engagement with the rear friction wall, thereby preventing the spool member front rotation relative to the intermediate portion in the reeling-in stage, and thereby permitting withdrawal of the second abutment area from friction wall so as to bring the first abutment area to the reeling-out stage, respectively, and a friction force adjusting member 9 retainingly movable relative to the distal portion between depressing and releasing positions where the friction force adjusting member holds the first abutment area in the first and second frictional engagements with the rear friction wall, respectively.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsutsumi in view of US 2002/0170997 to Furomoto.

Tsutsumi is advanced above.

Tsutsumi does not teach front and rear bearing chambers. Furomoto disclose front and rear bearing chambers in Figure 2.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide Tsutsumi with front and rear bearing chamber as taught by Furomoto to smooth rotation of the spool relative to the spool spindle.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

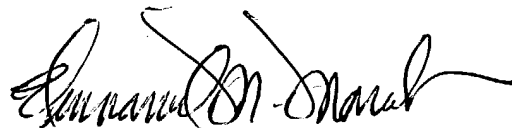
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Emmanuel M Marcelo whose telephone number is 703-305-6597. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katherine Matecki can be reached on 703-308-2688. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Emmanuel M Marcelo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3654

emm
May 17, 2004